

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau(43) International Publication Date
10 May 2001 (10.05.2001)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 01/32322 A1(51) International Patent Classification⁷: B07C 3/18, 3/00

(74) Agent: CABINET PRUGNEAU-SCHAUB; Monsieur Prugneau, 36, rue des Petits Champs, F-75002 Paris (FR).

(21) International Application Number: PCT/EP00/10712

(81) Designated States (national): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW.

(22) International Filing Date: 31 October 2000 (31.10.2000)

(84) Designated States (regional): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

(25) Filing Language: English

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): MANESMANN DEMATIC POSTAL AUTOMATION S.A. [FR/FR]; 14, avenue Raspail, F-94257 Gentilly Cedex (FR).

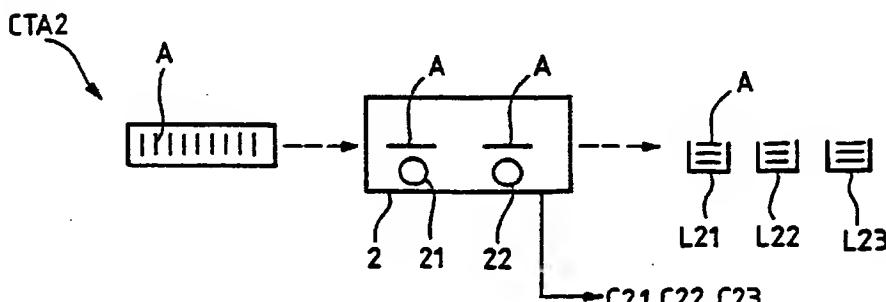
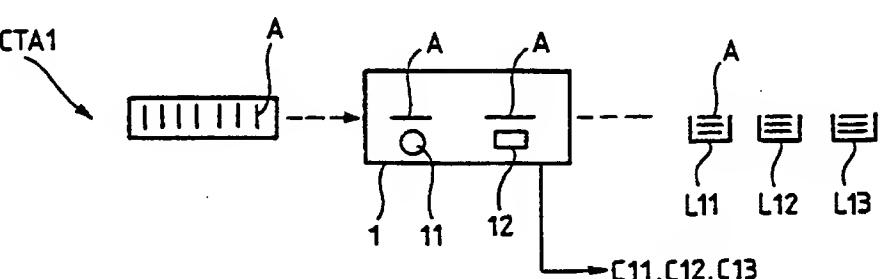
(72) Inventor; and

(75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): VOLTA, Bruno [FR/FR]; 160, avenue du Général Leclerc, F-91190 Gif sur Yvette (FR).

Published:
— With international search report.

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: POSTAL SORTING PROCESS INCLUDING RECOVERY OF ERRORS IN READING CODES AFFIXED TO THE MAIL ITEMS



WO 01/32322 A1

(57) Abstract: In this postal sorting process, ordered lists (C11-C23) of the sort codes affixed to the mail items are compiled in the handling sorting offices (CTA1, CTA2), these lists being representative of the order of the mail items in the batches of mail items compiled during the handling sorting phase. These lists of codes are transferred from the handling sorting offices to the distribution sorting offices and during the processing of the batches of mail items in a distribution sorting office, the codes read by machine on the mail items are compared with the codes extracted from said lists of codes with a view to recovering errors in reading said codes by machine.